



Utah State Legislature

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November 13, 2018

Senator Jerry W. Stevenson, Senate Chair
Representative Bradley G. Last, House Chair
Executive Appropriations Committee
Utah State Legislature
Salt Lake City, UT 84114

Dear Senator Stevenson and Representative Last,

The Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environmental Quality Appropriations Subcommittee is pleased to report our actions during the 2018 Interim. You encouraged us to meet three times (June, August, and October) and use the three meetings as follows:

- *June*: Look back at what was accomplished – and not accomplished – in the 2018 General Session, including technical corrections. Follow-up on any issues that are outstanding from General Session. List and identify items from the 2018 General Session and earlier on which LFA might report in August.
- *August*: Discuss FY 2018 close-out and what it means going forward. Follow-up on fiscal notes and funding items from 2018 General Session and earlier. Receive reports on performance metrics for FY 2018. Identify potential base budget actions for discussion in October.
- *October*: Review base budgets as known including one-time appropriations that fall out. Adopt recommendations for current year and new year budget changes identified in June, August, or otherwise. Review new funding initiatives/requests for appropriation as available. Receive reports on performance metrics from 2018 General Session, if applicable.

Following is our report on the items we studied:

1. *Water*: Participated in a site visit together with the Legislative Water Development Commission, with a primary focus on water. The two legislative bodies first toured the Jordanelle Hydropower Plant and Dam and discussed alternate energy sources, water development, and future water planning. Also visited the site of the Wallsburg Project, the Olmstead Power Plant, and toured the Don A. Christiansen Treatment Plant. Additional topics included: funding for Utah's water infrastructure, irrigation efficiencies, water conservation, water efficiency, state/federal funding sources, purpose of water conservancy districts, and local water companies.
2. *Water Audits and Updates*: Heard two follow-up reports on legislative audits regarding Utah's water needs and minimum source sizing requirements. Also, received an update on the implementation of H.B. 303, Drinking Water Source Sizing Requirements, which addresses issues found in those audits.

3. *Follow-up*: Received a report on how the FY 2018 funding was used.
4. *Environmental Quality Research Funding*: Examined the results of research funding for the Department of Environmental Quality, mostly concerning air quality.
5. *State Resource Management Plan*: Various county resource management plans were compiled and published as a single document on January 2, 2018. This was presented to the subcommittee and can be found at the following link:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/19ddzc3I5_jDmugC40OQ2Fe5xjLM9wmja/view
6. *Review of Agencies Fees' Data*: The LFA evaluated the accuracy of the fee data regarding how much revenue is collected from each fee, and how much it costs the agency to administer each fee. The report is available at the following link:
<https://le.utah.gov/interim/2018/pdf/00004087.pdf>
7. *Review of Agencies Performance Measures*: The LFA evaluated the entities' performance measures and made suggestions for changes. The report can be found at the following link:
<https://le.utah.gov/interim/2018/pdf/00004096.pdf>
8. *Motions*:
 - a. Requiring each fee entity to present plans during the 2019 General Session for how they will address issues with their fee data.
 - b. Requesting each entity to review recommendations made by the LFA when preparing their performance measures for FY 2020.

Sincerely,

Chairs of the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environmental Quality Appropriations Subcommittee.

Sen. David P. Hinkins, Co-Chair

Rep. Stewart E. Barlow, Co-Chair

Rep. Scott H. Chew, Vice Chair